



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 2009

Contact: Liz McCurtain
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Macedonia's Ambassador Comment's on latest 'Name' Talks
Calls for Invitation to upcoming NATO Summit

Washington, DC – Zoran Jolevski, Ambassador from the Republic of Macedonia to the United States of America, commented on the latest round of so-called 'name' talks aimed at resolving the 18-year dispute Greece has had with Macedonia over its name.

Ambassador Jolevski – appointed last fall by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to represent the country's interests in these talks – was in New York at the behest of UN Special Envoy for the talks Matthew Nimetz on Tuesday and Wednesday, together with Greek representative Ambassador Ademantios Vassilakis. No new proposals were put forward by Nimetz but the meeting was an opportunity for the two sides to discuss modalities for going forward.

According to Ambassador Jolevski, the meetings were conducted in a friendly and positive manner. The ambassador pledged, once again, that Macedonia is ready and willing to find a solution to the issue and expressed hope that a compromise could be found. The Ambassador stressed that it would be useful and helpful if Greece would support an invitation to Macedonia for the upcoming April 3 & 4 NATO Summit, thus creating a better atmosphere for finding a solution.

The Ambassador also told the Voice of America, Macedonia Program that "I also said that the identity and dignity of Macedonia's citizens must be protected, since they have been committed to the reform process in meeting conditions for the NATO membership invitation. We did not open the latest Nimetz proposal and did not debate on essential issues, but on the further developments in the negotiating process. Discussions also tackled the creation of a favorable atmosphere between the two countries for the purpose of facilitating the solution."

The representatives agreed to meet again at a future date. Macedonia holds presidential and mayoral elections in March and Greece holds elections for the European Parliament in June.

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13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Desmond Butler	Reporter, AP		Associated Press		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Viola Gienger	International News Reporter		Bloomberg		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Jane Sasseen	Bureau Manager		BusinessWeek		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Rob Wells	Washington Bureau Chief		Dow Jones		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Daniel Dombey	Washington Correspondent		Financial Times		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Brian Knowlton	Bureau Chief		International Herald Tribune		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Michael Gordon	Foreign Policy Chief Correspondent		New York Times		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	John Cushman	International News Editor		New York Times		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Michael Hirsh	Foreign Policy Senior Editor		Newsweek		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Bernd Debusmann	International News Columnist		Reuters		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Massimo Calabresi	International News Correspondent		Time		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Peter Nicholas	Foreign Policy Correspondent		Tribune		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Paul Richter	Foreign Policy Correspondent		Tribune		Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit		Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks	

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13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Anne Applebaum	Editorial Columnist	Washington Post	Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit	Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Scott Wilson	International News Editor	Washington Post	Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit	Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	Peter Finn	Defense & National Security Staff Writer	Washington Post	Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit	Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks
13-Feb-09	Elizabeth McCurtain	email	James Morrison	Embassy Row Columnist	Washington Times	Republic of Macedonia name negotiations, April NATO summit	Release: Macedonia's Ambassador Comments on Latest 'Name' Talks

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